

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1           1.       A method of providing secure communication between a remote  
2       system and a remotely accessed system, comprising:  
3           calculating at the remote system a first hash of an operation using a hash  
4       algorithm;  
5           encrypting at the remote system the first hash to form a signed hash;  
6           receiving at the remotely accessed system the signed hash from the remote  
7       system;  
8           storing at the remotely accessed system a reference hash in a section of non-  
9       volatile memory before receiving the signed hash;  
10          validating at the remotely accessed system the signed hash using the reference  
11       hash; and  
12          executing at the remotely accessed system the operation associated with the  
13       signed hash if the signed hash is validated.
- 1           2.       The method, as set forth in claim 1, comprising responding to the  
2       remote system based on the validation of the signed hash.
- 1           3.       The method, as set forth in claim 2, wherein responding to the remote  
2       system comprises generating a completion message if the signed hash is validated.
- 1           4.       The method, as set forth in claim 2, wherein responding to the remote  
2       system comprises generating an error message if the signed hash is not validated.

1           5.       The method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the operation comprises a  
2       command.

1           6.       The method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the operation comprises  
2       identification information.

1           7.       The method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein validating comprises  
2       accessing a database to access the reference hash.

1           8.       The method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein validating comprises  
2       parsing a packet to access the signed hash.

1           9.       A method of providing secure communication between systems,  
2       comprising:  
3           delivering identification information to a remotely accessed system from a  
4       remote system;  
5           creating a nonce at the remotely accessed system;  
6           delivering the nonce to the remote system;  
7           calculating at the remote system a first hash of an operation using a hash  
8       algorithm;  
9           encrypting at the remote system the first hash along with the nonce to form a  
10       signed hash;  
11          receiving at the remotely accessed system the signed hash from the remote  
12       system;

13           storing at the remotely accessed system a reference hash in a section of non-  
14   volatile memory before receiving the signed hash;  
15           validating at the remotely accessed system by comparing the signed hash to the  
16   reference hash; and  
17           executing at the remotely accessed system the operation associated with the  
18   signed hash if the signed hash is validated.

1           10.    The method, as set forth in claim 9, wherein encrypting comprises  
2   signing at the remote system the first hash to form the signed hash.

1           11.    The method, as set forth in claim 9, comprising parsing at the remotely  
2   accessed system a packet for the first signed hash.

1           12.    The method, as set forth in claim 9, comprising responding to the  
2   remote system based on the validation of the signed hash.

1           13.    The method, as set forth in claim 9, wherein generating the nonce at the  
2   remotely accessed system comprises storing the identification information at the  
3   remotely accessed system and validating comprises verifying the identification  
4   information to determine if a packet is valid.

1           14.    The method, as set forth in claim 9, wherein validating comprises  
2   accessing a database for the reference hash, wherein the reference hash comprises a  
3   second hash along with the nonce.

1           15.     The method, as set forth in claim 9, wherein validating comprises  
2     accessing a database for the reference hash, and combining the reference hash with the  
3     nonce to validate the operation from the remote system.

1           16.     The method, as set forth in claim 9, wherein validating comprises  
2     verifying the identification information.

1           17.     The method, as set forth in claim 9, wherein generating the nonce at the  
2     remotely accessed system comprises storing the nonce at the remotely accessed system  
3     and validating comprises verifying the nonce in a packet.

1           18.     A system comprising:  
2             a first computer system, the first computer system comprising a first program  
3     for hashing information;  
4             a request being generated from information received by the first computer  
5     system and hashed by the first program;  
6             a network connected to the first computer system and adapted to receive the  
7     request;  
8             a second computer system connected to the network and adapted to receive the  
9     request from the first computer system, wherein the second computer system  
10    comprises:  
11             a processor;  
12             a first section memory operatively coupled to the processor, the first  
13    section memory storing a file that is a hash; and

14                   a second section of memory being configured to store a validation  
15           program initiated by the processor, the validation program having a validation  
16           routine configured to validate the file stored in the first section of memory  
17           against the received request; wherein if the received request is valid, the  
18           second computer system may execute a command that corresponds to the file.

1           19.     The system, as set forth in claim 18, wherein the information  
2     comprises a command.

1           20.     The system, as set forth in claim 19, wherein the information  
2     comprises a nonce.

1           21.     The system, as set forth in claim 18, wherein the first computer system  
2     comprises a second program for digitally signing information.

1           22.     The system, as set forth in claim 21, wherein the validation program  
2     compares the hash stored in the first section of memory against signed information in  
3     the received request.

1           23.     The system, as set forth in claim 22, wherein the signed information  
2     comprises a signed command and signed argument.